

June 12, 2007

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON AGING

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order in the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center on June 12, 2007 by Chairman Callen at 9:30 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Breaker, Cardella (Arrived 9:40 a.m.), Clutter, Griffith, Virobik and Chairman Callen

Absent: Commissioner Craft

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Virobik led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Griffith provided the inspiration:

*Kindness is loving people more than they deserve.
Joseph Joubert*

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Virobik moved, Commissioner Clutter seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of June 12, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Griffith moved, Commissioner Virobik seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 8, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Anita Chun, Community Education Coordinator,
Center for Health Care Rights

Claire Coignard, Community Resources and Services Manager,
Torrance Memorial

Phillip Ross, Senior Librarian

Senior Librarian Phillip Ross spoke on the Library's Summer Reading Program for adults and children entitled "Get A Clue".

Anita Chun, Center for Health Care Rights explained that their organization is an advocacy for health care consumers, and she is in attendance to listen to the Commission's concerns on Medicare.

7. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council

Commissioner Griffith reported the following update from City Council:

Pat McIntyre has resigned from the City Council due to health reasons. The City Council will appoint a replacement on June 26th.

The Community Services Director position will be filled on a promotional basis, as long as eight applicants are accepted and qualified.

(Commissioner Cardella arrived at 9:40 a.m.)

Councilmember Hope Witkosky explained the selection process for the "Aging in Place" project, relaying that a resident from New Horizons was selected and will receive an updated bathroom.

A group called "Blue Stars Mothers" introduced themselves at the meeting.

A group of residents will be exclusively feeding the feral cats at Wilson Park.

The Police and Fire Departments were thanked for their assistance at the funeral services for Joseph Anzack.

B. Housing

Chairman Callen confirmed the Commission's approval of the letter, drafted by Commissioner Griffith, to Mayor Scotto conveying the Commission's appreciation of his acknowledgement of the need for affordable housing for seniors.

C. Health

Commissioner Virobik spoke on a recent article regarding the high degree of noncompliance in following Rx directions.

Commissioner Griffith mentioned an article she read recently regarding the shortage of geriatric trained nurses, dentists, and other medical personnel.

D. Transportation

Torrance Memorial's Community Resources and Services Manager Claire Coignard explained that there are two vans operating at Torrance Memorial from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. Each van schedules approximately five to seven

patients daily and transports patients to and from Torrance Memorial and area doctor offices. She explained that 80% of the riders are going to Torrance Memorial and the greatest percentage of "turndowns" for service relate to appointment prior to the 8:30 a.m. start time.

E. Cable

Chairman Callen reported that coverage of the Special Olympics is currently being broadcast.

He noted that the Senior Fair coverage is scheduled to broadcast next.

F. Focal Point Program

Commissioner Virobik reported that the Program is looking for a volunteer on Mondays from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Commissioner Virobik reported the following statistics for the month of May:

- Total number of calls received -- 114
- Total number of documented calls -- 35
(Note: 67 follow up phone calls were made to clients)
- Miscellaneous calls -- 79
- Total number of walk-ins -- 33

Of the 35 documented calls,

- 40% were in regard to Housing
- 20% were for Legal
- 17.1 % were for Transportation

Commissioner Virobik further reported that they participated in the Torrance Senior Fair and had ten inquiries which required follow up.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

Commissioner Virobik reported that during Focal Point's attendance at the Senior Fair, one elder abuse report was made by a client.

Commission Griffith talked of supermarkets that have recently changed the layout of the market, which can cause difficulty for seniors. The Commission briefly discussed the matter with Commissioner Cardella pointing out that such changes are driven by marketing and money!

H. Club Reports

1. Senior Citizens Golf Club

Chairman Callen reported that seven new members have joined the Club.

2. Walteria Senior Citizens Club

Commissioner Breaker reported that all is well and pretty much the same at the Club.

8. JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

The Commission unanimously agreed to schedule a Joint Meeting with City Council. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand indicated that she will obtain a couple of available meeting dates in the early fall and inform the Commission accordingly.

9. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Clutter congratulated Commissioner Virobik on her Older American Recognition award, stating that she is a wonderful person and is so deserving of the award.

Commissioner Virobik spoke on what an honor it was to be recognized by the City Council and County Supervisor Donald Knabe.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand also spoke on the wonderful Older American Recognition Program held by the County, sharing that it was one of the nicest she has attended. She stated that the event was beautifully done and intimate, whereby one was able to get a sense of the recipient's persona and accomplishments. She added that Commissioner Virobik fit in "beautifully" with the other recipients.

Chairman Cullen asked if anyone had any candidates for consideration for the Life Story of a Senior.

Commissioner Virobik distributed flyers from the Braille Institute regarding a community outreach to learn about free programs and services in the community for the visually impaired. She stated that the event will be held June 15th from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Bartlett Senior Center.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. to Tuesday, July 12, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. at the Bartlett Center, Hosler Conference Room.

Approved as Submitted July 10, 2007 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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